# SEVENTH BIENNIAL REPORT OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN FROM JUNE 30, 1892, TO JUNE 30, 1894

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Seventh Biennial report of the State board of education of the state of Michigan from June 30, 1892, to June 30, 1894 by Various



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VARIOUS

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Trieste

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FROM

JUNE 30, 1892, TO JUNE 30, 1894.


BY AUTHORITY.

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1895

# REPORT.

*To the Honorable, the Legislature of the State of Michigan:*

In accordance with the provisions of the law defining the duties of the State Board of Education, we hereby present to you the report of the board for the two years ending June 30, 1894.

Some changes in the school laws of the State, made by the last previous legislature, added to the duties and responsibilities of this board, among other things making more direct and complete its relation to the several colleges of the State which include in their purposes that of preparing students to teach. By the authority given in the law referred to, act No. 136, pulbic acts of 1893, graduates of the colleges below named were given four year certificates to teach in any of the public schools of the State, these certificates, at the conclusion of four years' experience of the holders in teaching (three years of which shall be continuous), to be exchanged for life certificates issued by the State Board of Education. Such preliminary four year certificates were issued in September, 1894, to the following persons:

OLIVET COLLEGE.

Hiram E. Archer,
Reuben L. Breed,
William C. Cadwallader,
Arthur C. Cole,
Lizzie M. Corey,
Henry S. Gurtis,
Grace F. Ellis,
Fred A. Harrington,
Isabelle Hosie,
Lula McBride,
John D. Machay,
John G. Monroe,
Hattie E. Mills,
Estelle M. Potter,
Arthur L. Shaw,

Cecil Neilson,
Abbie Shaw,
Edith L. Spaulding,
Viola B. Sharp,
Willian R. Tuttle,
Edith E. Tyler,
Lewis D. Bryant,
Wilhelmina Westrate,
Ethelwyn Whalley,
Herbert Williams,
Edwin S. Wright,
Florence G. Peck,
Stephen D. Fry,
Archie A. Swinton,
Edwin Johnson, Jr.

ALBION COLLEGE.

Frank A. Bacon,
Arthur T. Camburn,
Grace A. Cogshall,
Burton A. Crampton,
Mae Bell Hunt,
Ella M. Sloat,
Henry B. Arnold,
Mary H. Garfield,
Vernon G. Marys,
Clarence M. Mulholland,
Clement E. Rood,
Arthur F. Shultz,
Effie E. Thrasha,
Royal B. May,
Newell Cook,
John E. Meally.

HILLSDALE COLLEGE.

Bert F. Green,
Alice A. Lewis,
E. P. S. Miller,
Alice Dewey,
William H. Lewis.

ADRIAN COLLEGE.

Frank Ewing,
Jessie P. Hopkins,
Charles H. Hubble,
William M. Long,
Helen B. Thomas.

The following persons have received State certificates during the term covered by this report, from June 30, 1892, to June 30, 1894, as the result of successfully completing the full examination required by law:

Nina M. Stephens,
Lewis Terwilliger,
Robert D. Briggs,
W. C. Thompson,
P. J. Willson,
J. M. Tice,
E. A. Aseltine,
E. C. Hambleton,
T. B. Hartley,
G. L. Griswold,
H. R. Foster,
J. E. McDonald,
L. G. Palmer,
W. M. Coon,
E. McDonald,
F. W. French,
F. C. Pencyer,
L. L. Wright,
H. H. Barton.

Attendance upon examinations for these certificates has been increasing during the last two years, but the percentage of successful applicants has somewhat decreased. The statute under which such certificates are issued requires that the examination shall be sufficiently thorough to indicate good scholarship, liberal culture, and the necessary degrees of information, observation, and experience to insure worthiness on the part of the recipients of the honor and responsibility which a life State certificate indicates. It is not the purpose or wish of the board to add more to the requirements at examinations under its auspices than is practically necessary, nor to burden the applicants with work not directly anticipated by the high character of the certificate sought. The present interpretation of the requirements for such certificate seems to be satisfactory to the teachers of the State as well as to the board.

The last previous legislature, at the request of the board, repealed the law requiring the State Board of Education to appoint members of boards of visitors to the chartered schools of the State, and placed the appointment of such boards of visitors in the discretion of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. No such appointments have been made since the repeal of the law referred to, and it is the announced policy of the Superintendent to appoint such visitors only when some purpose can be subserved or when some need for such official visit and report seems to exist.

## STATE NORMAL SCHOOL.

It is with no small degree of satisfaction and pride that we present to your honorable body, and through you to the people of the State of Michigan, our report relative to the recent progress and present status of the Michigan State Normal School. Regarded, as it has been, by school men and practical educators of this and other countries during recent years as one of the leading and most valuable institutions of its kind for the training and teaching of teachers, it can yet be truthfully claimed that its progress during the last two years has been as great in degree and as valuable in kind as in any previous years of its most successful history.

With the closing of the school year of 1893, the term of service of Principal J. M. B. Sill came to a close. The years of Mr. Sill's connection with the school were years of continued and increasing success. He was an earnest, enthusiastic advocate of all that seemed to him best for the good of the school, and for all that pertained to the welfare and advancement of the interests of its students and the State. Principal Sill's present relation to our country as minister to Corea, indicates the high degree of appreciation in which he was held by the people of Michigan, and more particularly by those who have been favored with a nearer and more intimate knowledge of his enthusiasm and ability.

As successor to Principal Sill, the State Board of Education has been, we believe, most fortunate in securing the services of Dr. R. G. Boone, recently connected with the State University of Indiana. Doctor Boone has already attained national prominence as an educator and author of educational works, and comes to our State and to the Normal School splendidly equipped for the sevices required of him and for the further work of aiding and adding to the general duty of assisting in the development of the educational interests of our State. Dr. Boone's term of service as principal of the State Normal School commenced with the beginning of the school year of 1893, and his report as principal of the school up to the end of the school year of 1894 will be found attached to this report.

The last legislature appropriated $20,000 for the building of a gymnasium and physical training department at the State Normal School. After thorough investigation as to the best means and methods for the making of such an expenditure, and after liberal donations to the appropriation granted from the citizens of Ypsilanti and from the faculty of the State Normal School, plans were accepted and a building was erected which the board believes will fully meet all the requirements of the school in that direction. The building consists of two departments, permitting the use of one exclusively by the young women, and the other exclusively by the young men. It is complete in all its arrangements and details, and is pro-

nounced by persons well informed to be a model department in every respect. The students of the school are making the best possible use of the opportunities thus afforded for normal training in the exercise and proper development of their bodies. Extremes are not encouraged or desired in such directions; but painstaking, persistent, and successful efforts are being made to send out from the State Normal School, through the use of this department, well trained and thoroughly informed teachers in the matter of the proper development of the body as well as of the mind.

The report of the treasurer of the board is elsewhere presented, together with the estimate of the board as to the appropriation required at your hands for the maintenance of the school during the coming two years. This estimate is based upon present necessary expenditures, and your honorable body can be assured that it will be true in the future, as it has been in the past, that no dollar will be expended for the State Normal School for which earnest effort will not be made to secure full and adequate return.

In closing this report we desire, in behalf of the faculty of the school, as well as for ourselves, to thank the people of the State through you for their generous disposition and constant interest in all that pertains to the welfare and upbuilding of the State Normal School. The knowledge and recognition of this widespread interest in the school, and the liberal manifestations of approval accorded, has had much to do with the efforts made by all connected with it for its advancement, and the successful performance of the work for which it is established; and we can assure you that this earnest effort thoroughly and well to perform its work will be as true of it in the future as it has been in the past. In the discharge of all our duties we have endeavored to do that which would result in benefit to the State in an educational way, and we hope and believe that we have merited the confidence and approval which we have heretofore received from your body and from the people of the State.

Very respectfully,

PERRY F. POWERS, *President.*
HENRY R. PATTENGILL, *Secretary.*
DAVID A. HAMMOND, *Treasurer.*
EUGENE A. WILSON.

# REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL

## FOR THE SCHOOL YEARS 1892-3, 1893-4.

*To the Honorable, The State Board of Education of Michigan:*

GENTLEMEN—In accordance with the provisions of the statutes, I have the honor to submit herewith the official biennial report of the Principal of the State Normal School for the academic years 1892 to 1894, inclusive.

Elected to the position late in August, 1893, I took formal charge of the school September 11 of that year. The usual entrance examinations began on the morning of the 12th. The faculty was the same as for the previous year, and remained unchanged with the exception of an assistant added in the department of drawing and geography for the second term. The courses of study also were continued without modification. Indeed, the purpose was faithfully adhered to throughout the year to follow the existing policy of the institution, until there should appear positive and urgent reasons for change. The results have, I am persuaded, in a general way justified the administration.

Obviously, it would be an easier task to report upon the work of the last year only, than upon that of two years, with one of which (1892-3) my only acquaintance must be derived from the records. The two years, however, belong together in the growth of the school as making a period of increased prosperity.

For the school year, 1891-2, the enrollment reached its highest mark, 1,002. The year following it was 937; and for the last year (1893-4), the full enrollment was 922. This was a decrease of fifteen from the previous year, and eighty less than for 1891-2. Nevertheless these were prosperous years for the school. The period was one of contraction of enterprise in many ways, in business and commercial interests as well. The decrease in school attendance here, though slight, was shared by most other educational institutions in our own and other states, and was due chiefly, perhaps, to the general economic depression to which schools are found to be peculiarly sensitive. The present prospect promises a larger attendance for 1894-5 than ever before.

Experience of a year in the school, however, gives point to the conviction that the management has no special cause to be solicitous about numbers. With the large attendance and limited room, the more careful selection of students and a further improvement of the quality of instruction and additions to the present excellent equipment, are needs that may well occupy the time and command the best thought of the board and the principal.